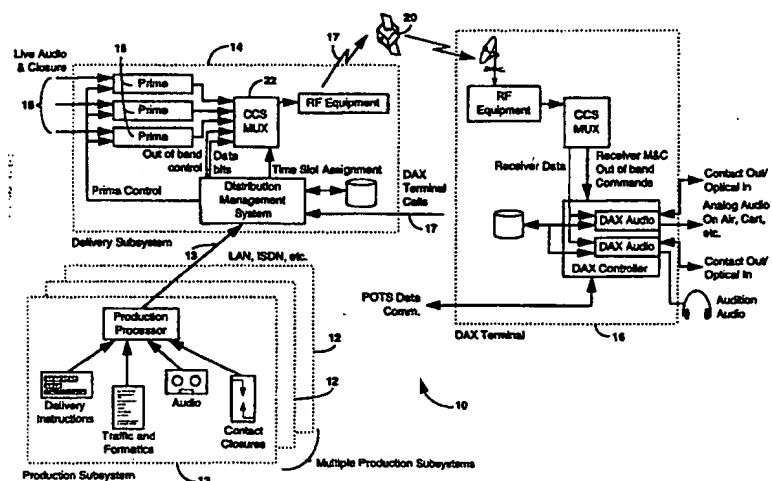


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(54) Title: AUDIO FILE DISTRIBUTION AND PRODUCTION SYSTEM



(57) Abstract

A data file delivery system (10) is provided having, at a head end, a production subsystem (12) which communicates with a delivery subsystem (14) via a local area network, ISDN connection, and the like. The delivery subsystem (14) communicates with an affiliate subsystem (16), at a tail end, via a satellite link, ISDN link and the like. The production subsystem (12) enable a producer to create audio which are played to completion before another audio event occurs. Audio events are stored as audio files. Each audio event may include one or more of an audio sequence, test information, delivery instructions, and an attribute list having contact closure information and the like. Optionally, multiple audio events may be assembled at the production subsystem (12) to form a play list. The audio files are transferred to the delivery subsystem (14). The delivery subsystem (14) places the audio files in delivery envelopes and transmits the envelopes to the affiliate terminals (16). In addition, the delivery subsystem (14) may transmit live audio and related contact closure information to the affiliate terminals (16). The affiliate terminal (16) may be located at the user site. The affiliate terminals (16) may store these events on the hard drive, play the events in real time or pass events to other affiliate terminals (16). The affiliate terminal (16) may later play stored audio events.